

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 1 – 6 are pending in the application. In view of the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejections and submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

II. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1 – 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 2,949,182 to Williams in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,643,929 to Watanabe. Applicants traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites, among other things, a capacitor device comprising a cylindrical capacitor and a holder for holding the capacitor, wherein the holder comprises a *mounting part* for mounting said holder itself to another device. According to one embodiment of the invention, a capacitor device is configured such that a cylindrical capacitor is held in a holder, which includes a mounting part, in a sideways configuration, thereby reducing the size of the device. The capacitor device may be fixed to, for example, a printed circuit board of an electronic device by placing the holder on the circuit board and screwing it to the circuit board using holes of the mounting part. The terminals of the capacitor are connected to the printed circuit board or the electronic device. When the capacitor is connected to another electronic device, the inductance in a mounted state may be reduced.

Williams appears to be directed towards a method of packaging components to simplify their manipulation by automatic-assembly machines. Williams does not disclose a mounting part, as recited in claim 1. The Examiner considers element 94, depicted in Figure 3 of Williams, to be the claimed mounting part. However, element 94 refers to a lower, channel-

shaped portion of a cylindrical member used to hold the disk shaped capacitor. Williams does not disclose or even suggest mounting the lower, channel-shaped portion to another device.

Watanabe does not overcome the deficiencies of Williams. In fact, Watanabe does not disclose a capacitor device at all and is not even relevant to capacitors. Watanabe appears to be directed to steel material for use with concrete. However, Watanabe does not disclose or even suggest a capacitor device comprising a cylindrical capacitor and a holder for holding the capacitor, wherein the holder comprises a *mounting part* for mounting said holder itself to another device.

The Examiner admits that Williams fails to disclose a heat shrinking resin tube interposed between the capacitor and the holder, and asserts that Watanabe disclose a heat shrinking resin tube around a cylindrical body. However, Watanabe does not disclose a heat shrinking resin tube disposed between a capacitor and holder because Watanabe does not disclose a capacitor at all. Furthermore, even if Watanabe could be properly combined with Williams, though Applicants assert that it cannot, there is no motivation to combine the teachings of Williams and Watanabe. Williams does not suggest the desirability of having a heat shrinking resin tube interposed between the capacitor. The Examiner alleges that it would have been obvious to place a heat shrinking tube, as taught by Watanabe, between the capacitor and capacitor holder, as taught by Williams, for the purpose of protecting the capacitor from external elements causing corrosion and rust, and refers to column 2, lines 25 – 30 of Watanabe to support this position. However, Watanabe recites that if “improved rust-preventing and anti-corrosion effects are desired, the steel member and the resin tube may be bonded by an adhesive member.” Thus, it is the adhesive member and not the heat shrinking tube that would prevent rust and corrosive effects.

Accordingly, as each and every limitation must be disclosed or suggested by the cited prior art references in order to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (see, M. P.E.P. § 2143.03), and Williams and Watanabe clearly fail to do so, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is patentable over these references.

Claims 2 – 6 depend from claim 1. Under Federal Circuit guidelines, a dependent claim is nonobvious if the independent claim upon which it depends is allowable because all the limitations of the independent claim are contained in the dependent claims, *Hartness International Inc. v. Simplicatic Engineering Co.*, 819 F.2d at 1100, 1108 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Accordingly, as claim 1 is patentable for the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all dependent claims are also in condition for allowance.

III. Conclusion

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited.

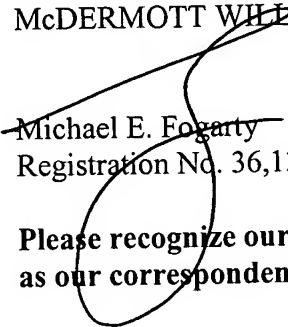
If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

Application No.: 10/734,290

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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